



RICHARD MURRAY HOSPITAL
JOINT BOARD

TWENTY FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE WORK

OF THE

RICHARD MURRAY HOSPITAL,

BLACKHILL, Co. DURHAM,

FOR THE YEAR 1946.



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FOR THE YEAR 1946.

DURHAM COUNTY PRESS LTD.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Chairman : T. H. MURRAY.

Vice-Chairman : HEDLEY MASON, J.P.

Messrs. E. ATKINSON, S. CARRUTHERS, J. E. DAVISON, P. FERGUSON, T. FERGUSON, F. B. GEORGE, J. J. LUMLEY, T. McALOON, J. G. MURRAY, T. H. MURRAY, *J. ROXBY SURTEES and J. G. WILKINSON, representing the Hospital Trustees and Governors ; and County Aldermen J. W. FOSTER, O.B.E., HEDLEY MASON, Mrs. S. J. MASON and R. SHOTTON ; County Councillors T. BENFOLD, C.B.E., G. A. H. CAMERON, E. COLGAN, T. KEELER, G. P. KELL, †J. MASCALL, Mrs. S. E. METCALFE and R. SMILEY, representing the County Council of Durham.

(*Died October, 1946).

(†Died June, 1946).

STAFF

Consulting Surgeon : A. HEDLEY WHYTE, D.S.O., M.S., F.R.C.S., Eng. and Edin.

Consulting Obstetrician and Gynaecologist : WILLIAM HUNTER, M.D., M.R.C.O.G.

Anaesthetist and Acting House Surgeon : G. EWEN, M.B., Ch.B.

Matron : A. E. COMPTON, D.N., S.R.N., S.C.M.

Honorary Treasurer : ARTHUR ABEL, A.S.A.A., A.I.M.T.A.

Honorary Secretary : T. W. ADDISON.

To the Chairman and Members,
Richard Murray Hospital Joint Board

I present the Twenty-fourth Annual Report on the work of the Hospital during the year 1946.

There have been some changes in the membership of the Board. Mr. J. G. Wilkinson and Mr. P. Ferguson were nominated by the Trustees and Governors of the Hospital to fill the two vacancies in the Board's complement occasioned by the deaths of Mr. Alex. Elliot and Mr. J. Roxby Surtees, respectively, and Mr. E. Colgan was nominated by the County Council to succeed Mr. J. Mascall (deceased).

There have been no changes in the medical staffing of the Hospital, and Dr. Ewen has continued to serve as Acting House Surgeon.

In spite of every endeavour to secure the services of midwives for the Hospital no success was achieved and, as a direct result, the maternity wards had to be closed on 10th May, 1946. In the meantime, to assist the County Council in establishing a mental treatment service, the Board has granted the temporary use of the maternity wing to serve as a clinic until it reverts to its normal use.

The Minister of Health has renewed his approval of the Hospital for the treatment of tuberculosis for a further period expiring on 31st December, 1947, and the arrangement with the County Council for the admission of patients requiring treatment for surgical tuberculosis has been renewed until 15th July, 1947.

The Board has given careful consideration to the provision of a public supply of electricity to the Hospital, and has recommended the County Council to provide for an estimated expenditure of £940 in its estimates for the financial year ending 31st March, 1948.

The National Fire Service has undertaken a survey of the fire precautions at the Hospital, and has made certain recommendations for reducing the risk of fire.

Various improvements at the Hospital carried out during the year include the removal of the remainder of the blast walling erected during the war, the repair of the manual service lift, repair of the floor of the anaesthetic room, and the renewal of the floor of the operating theatre, while the usual periodical inspections of the "Iron Lung" and the X-ray and electrical apparatus have been carried out.

The Joint Board adopted the recommendations of the National Joint Council for Staff of Hospitals and Allied Institutions in England and Wales with reference to the salaries and conditions of service of certain non-nursing employees of the Hospital. The recommendations so far as wages are concerned came into force on the 1st April, 1946, and the conditions of service took effect from the 1st November, 1946.

The total number of admissions to the Hospital during the year was 394, which is 232 cases less than in the previous year due, in the main, to the fact of closing the maternity wards. Of these, 323 were admitted to the surgical wards and 71 to the maternity wards, the comparable figures for 1945 being 288 and 338 respectively. The average stay per patient in the surgical wards was 9.42 days, and in the maternity wards 12.9 days, compared with 10.8 days and 12.7 days, respectively, during 1945.

The number of operations performed at the Hospital during the year was 442, which is a decrease of 285 cases compared with the figure for the previous twelve months.

In the maternity wards 71 babies were born to 71 mothers, there being no sets of twins. During 1945 there were 342 births.

There were 4 deaths during 1946, which represents a death rate of 1.015% of the admissions, compared with a rate of .48% during the preceding year.

The surgical out-patient department attendances show an increase, the number being 853 compared with 798 for 1945. The number of re-attendances was 469. The out-patient attendances in the maternity department were 156 and the re-attendances 145 while those registered in the gynaecological department were 146 and 47, respectively. The total out-patient attendances at the Hospital during the year therefore numbered only 1,816, as compared with 2,415 for last year.

The work of the X-ray department has been continued throughout the year, the number of radiographs being 289 for 201 patients : the figures for 1945 were 327 for 236 patients.

As we have not yet been fortunate enough to secure the services of a masseur or masseuse, the work in the physio-therapy department has been limited to 72 electrical treatments during the year.

The efforts of the Special Appeals Committee and the Hospital Auxiliary Committee in building up the funds which are so important a factor in the efficient functioning of the Hospital again deserve special mention. The sum raised by the Special Appeals Committee for this year amounted to £291 14s. 8d. and that raised by the Hos-

pital Auxiliary Committee £916 10s. 0d. The goodwill shown, and the regular financial support given to the Hospital throughout the year both by industrial organisations and individuals, has been an outstanding feature, and this fact is recorded with gratitude.

Attached hereto are certain medical data relating to the work of the Hospital during 1946, the Matron's report, and the Hon. Treasurer's financial statement.

In conclusion, I offer sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Joint Board, to Matron and her staff, the Hon. Treasurer, and all who have helped me during the year of this Report.

T. W. ADDISON,

Honorary Secretary.

Shire Hall; Durham,
31st March, 1947.

ANNUAL REPORT OF CONSULTING SURGEON.

The following data relate to the work of the Surgical Wards during the year :—

Out-Patient Attendances	...	...	...	...	853
Re-attendances	...	...	...	...	469
Admissions (excluding gynaecological cases, abortions and miscarriages)	...	...	...	...	252
Operations	...	...	...	...	442

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS excluding gynaecological patients (256 Major and 186 Minor).

Varicose Veins	...	...	16	Cartilage	...	...	...	4
Gastric	...	...	—	Ophthalmic	...	...	...	2
Appendix	...	...	14	Throat, Nose and Ear	...	...	...	45
Genito-Urinary	...	...	14	Glandular	...	...	...	3
Herniorrhaphy	...	...	56	Kidney	...	...	...	9
Mammary	...	...	5	Intestinal	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	258					

MORTALITY.—During the year 4 deaths occurred. This gives a death-rate of 1.59%.

WARD STATE (Gynaecological cases included).

Remaining in Hospital at end of 1945	...	...	1
Admitted	...	...	326
Discharged	...	...	323
Average stay per patient (days)	...	...	9.42
Average daily number	...	...	9.5
No. of patients in Hospital at end of year	...	...	4

X-RAY DEPARTMENT.—During the period of the report 289 photographs were made in the investigation of 201 patients, including

Alimentary tract	...	8	Ante-natal ...	...	...	16
Pyelogram	...	1	Barium meals	...	...	—
Chest	...	2	Lipiodol	...	...	1

PHYSIO-THERAPY DEPARTMENT.—No massage treatment was given during the year. Electrical treatment was given in 72 instances.

THROAT, NOSE and EAR DEPARTMENT.—A total of 45 operations were performed for the removal of tonsils and adenoids. The number for which the Board received payment from the Education Department was 25.

A. HEDLEY WHYTE,

D.S.O., M.S., F.R.C.S.,

Consulting Surgeon.

31st March, 1947.

ANNUAL REPORT OF HONORARY ANAESTHETIST.

The following is a detailed analysis of the anaesthetics used in 404 cases :—

OPEN ADMINISTRATION.

Chloroform	...	...	...	...	...	30
Aether	...	...	...	...	...	30
Chloroform and aether mixture	...	...	...	...	...	293

LOCAL ANAESTHESIA.

Procaine	...	...	...	...	...	36
Ethyl Chloride	...	...	...	...	...	8

SPINAL.

Evipan	...	...	...	...	...	7
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G. EWEN, M.B., Ch.B.,

Honorary Anaesthetist.

31st March, 1947.

ANNUAL REPORT OF CONSULTING OBSTETRICIAN AND GYNAECOLOGIST.

494 obstetrical and gynaecological attendances were recorded in the out-patient department during the year under review, while 71 obstetrical cases and 71 gynaecological patients (including 1 case of abortion) were admitted to the Hospital and received treatment. 71 babies were born to 71 mothers, there being no sets of twins. The average daily number of occupied maternity beds was 8.

The effects of the closing of the maternity wards on 10th May, 1946, are clearly shown in the above figures and in those which follow :—

OBSTETRICAL DEPARTMENT.

OUT-PATIENTS.

New Patients	...	...	...	...	...	156
Re-attendances	...	...	...	...	...	145
External version	...	...	...	...	...	16
X-ray photographs	...	...	...	...	...	16

IN-PATIENTS.

Admissions (excluding re-admissions and abortions) 71

Analysis (delivered patients).

Occipito-anterior presentation	...	...	68
Occipito-posterior presentation	...	...	1
Face presentation	...	...	—
Brow presentation	...	...	1
Breech presentation	...	...	1
Shoulder presentation	...	...	—
Twin pregnancy	...	...	—

Complicated Pregnancy, Labour and Puerperium

(all admissions).

Toxaemia ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eclampsia ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ante-partum haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	—
Post-partum haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	3
Contracted pelvis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hyperemesis ...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Operations and mode of delivery.

Surgical induction of labour	...	...	...	...	...	—
B.B.A. ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Normal delivery ...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Breech delivery ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Instrumental delivery ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Manual removal of placenta	...	...	...	...	...	—
Embryotomy ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Caesarean Section	...	...	...	...	...	—
Internal version ...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Maternal deaths ...	...	...	...	...	...	—

The Child.

Babies born alive	...	...	...	...	...	70
Stillbirths ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Neo-natal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	—

Abortion and miscarriages.

Case having operation ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cases without operation	...	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths ...	...	...	...	...	...	—

GYNAECOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

OUT-PATIENTS.

New patients	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
Re-attendances	...	...	...	...	...	...	47

IN-PATIENTS.

<i>Admissions</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
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Major operations.

Abdominal	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Vaginal	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

<i>Minor operations</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
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<i>Non-operative treatment</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
--------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

<i>Deaths</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
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WM. HUNTER, M.D., M.R.C.O.G.,

Visiting and Consulting Obstetrician and Gynaecologist.

31st March, 1947.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MATRON.

I beg to present my report for the year 1946.

NURSING STAFF.—The increasing difficulty of obtaining nurses is creating many problems. At the moment I have a grave shortage of probationers and trained staff and I am one Sister and three midwives short.

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining midwives the grievous step had to be taken on 10th May of closing the Maternity Department.

DOMESTIC STAFF.—Two maids left to be married and as the maternity wards had closed I have not replaced them.

LAUNDRY.—This department continues to work satisfactorily.

HOUSEKEEPING.—The average number of persons fed per day during the year was 38. The average cost of feeding patients and staff was $1/6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per day.

JAM.—We did not make any jam, but a quantity of fruit from the garden was bottled.

EQUIPMENT AND RENEWALS.—Replacements of bedding, clothing and other equipment have been made and all appear to be in good condition.

GARDEN.—We have had a fair supply of fruit and vegetables.

HENS AND DUCKS.—The hens and ducks laid 1,883 eggs. We now have 9 hens and 6 ducks and I would suggest that we buy 6 more hens.

REFRIGERATORS.—These continue to give every satisfaction.

LINEN LEAGUE.—Although the immediate need for infants, clothing is not urgent these ladies continue to attend and to make garments.

THE SPECIAL APPEALS COMMITTEE continues to be very helpful.

I beg to acknowledge with much pleasure the help I have received from the members and officials of the Hospital, from the nursing and medical staffs and from the many friends who continue to give us loyal support.

A. COMPTON,
Matron.

31st March, 1947.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

YEAR ENDED

RECEIPTS.

1945.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
				CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAINTENANCE.									
				(a) Hospital Trustees :—									
2585	0	7		Contributions	2778	5	8						
				Other Receipts :—									
55	5	6		Operation Fees	61	4	0						
4	16	10		Donations	—	—	—						
								2839	9	8			
2645	2	11											
				(b) County Council :—									
3564	16	1		Contributions	3628	10	8						
723	15	0		Salaries of Medical Staff ...	773	15	0						
				Contributions towards Trustees' Deficiency :—									
700	0	0		Balance									
				1944-45 ...	172	19	6						
				o/a year									
				1945-46 ...	1300	0	0						
								1472	19	6			
				Other Receipts :—									
1815	18	8		Maternity Fees	334	5	10						
								6209	11	0			
6804	9	9									9049	0	8
12	17	5		Refunds from Ministry of Food under National Milk Scheme							25	19	11
6	5	0		X-ray Fees... ..							13	7	0
—	—	—		Contribution towards cost of Singer Sewing Machine							14	0	0
—	—	—		Use of Room							0	2	6
9468	15	1		TOTAL RECEIPTS							9102	10	1

Excess of payments over receipts :—

—	—	—	Balance overdrawn at 31st December, 1946	289	5	4			
—	—	—	Less Balance overdrawn at 1st January, 1946	59	7	0			
							229	18	4

NOTE.—No charge is made by the Trustees for the use of the Hospital Premises.

9468 15 1

Carried forward 9332 8 5

AND PAYMENTS

31st DECEMBER, 1946.

PAYMENTS.

1945.											
£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
SALARIES AND WAGES :—											
723	15	0	Medical Staff	...	...	...	...	773	15	0	
100	0	0	Anaesthetist—Salary	...	...	100	0	0			
			Honorarium in respect of Education Committee Cases (Tonsils & Adenoids)	...	...	15	15	0			
									115	15	0
2116	16	0	Nursing Staff	...	...	...	...	1791	16	9	
1403	9	5	Domestic Staff	...	...	...	...	1621	2	6	
596	5	11	Engineer & Handyman	...	...	...	...	660	13	3	
87	17	8	Health & Unemployment Insurance	...	...	...	...	93	5	3	
121	11	4	Nurses' Superannuation Scheme			151	3	2			
			Less Contributions refunded	...	...	135	0	6			
									16	2	8
											5072 10 5
5165	10	4									
PROVISIONS :—											
418	4	11	Meat, Fish, Poultry, etc.	...	...	...	...	388	12	3	
130	13	7	Butter, Bacon, etc.	...	...	...	...	122	6	6	
222	11	5	Milk	...	...	...	...	156	16	8	
62	14	0	Bread, Flour, etc.	...	...	...	...	64	8	7	
208	12	5	Groceries	...	...	...	...	166	2	10	
233	2	6	Fruit & Vegetables	...	...	...	...	229	0	11	
											1127 7 9
1275	18	10									
SURGERY AND DISPENSARY :—											
130	8	10	Drugs, Chemicals and Disinfectants	...	...	...	...	136	7	8	
117	13	10	Dressings, Bandages, etc.	...	...	...	...	54	14	1	
41	19	7	Instruments and Appliances	...	...	...	...	54	14	6	
79	16	8	X-Ray Apparatus—Maintenance	...	...	...	...	30	12	0	
19	4	9	Bacteriological, etc. Examinations	...	...	...	...	24	10	6	
10	10	0	Wines and Spirits	...	...	...	...	9	8	0	
											310 6 9
399	13	8									
DOMESTIC :—											
112	3	5	Renewal and Repair of Furniture, Bedding, etc.					129	16	7	
38	18	0	Hardware, Crockery, Brushes, etc.	...	...	...	...	13	9	2	
21	15	6	Cleaning Materials	...	...	...	...	35	13	7	
280	13	8	Laundry (including wages)	...	...	...	...	316	11	0	
89	11	0	Water	...	...	...	...	91	3	4	
885	17	2	Fuel and Lighting	...	...	...	...	950	14	1	
14	13	2	Uniforms (Materials and Allowances)	...	...	...	...	58	6	5	
—	—	—	Clothing for Patients	...	...	...	...	0	15	2	
											1596 9 4
1443	11	11									
8284	14	9									
			Carried forward			...			8106 14 3		

1945.

£	s.	d.
9468	15	1

Brought forward ...

£ s. d.
8 5

£9468 15 1

£9332 8 5

8th April, 1947.

PAYMENTS.

1945.

£ s. d.
8284 1 9

Brought forward

£ s. d. £ s. d.
... .. 8106 14 3

ESTABLISHMENT :—

— — —	Refrigerator—Maintenance charge	7 14 0	
3 3 0	Inspection, etc. of Boiler and Battery... ..	10 8 0	
502 3 4	Renewals and Repairs	567 18 5	
— — —	Painting, etc.	100 14 6	
78 0 0	Rates	81 18 0	
64 19 7	Fire, etc., insurance	69 19 4	
187 16 8	Garden & Poultry Expenses	160 8 10	
			999 1 1
836 2 7			

MISCELLANEOUS :—

8 12 0	Periodicals	5 6 9	
9 9 1	Travelling Expenses	13 2 10	
11 12 0	Allowance for V.E. Day Celebrations	— — —	
15 12 0	Allowance for Xmas Festivities	14 11 0	
	Subscriptions :—		
7 6 0	British Hospitals Association	7 6 0	
	North-Eastern Regional Hospitals Advisory Council	2 0 0	
	Robert Richardson Convalescent Home—Barnard Castle	3 3 0	
0 10 0	Wireless Licence	0 10 0	
			45 19 7
55 1 1			

ADMINISTRATION :—

73 5 5	Printing, Stationery, etc.	83 8 4	
51 19 11	Postages and Telephones	51 3 5	
7 19 0	Advertisements	32 1 9	
3 10 0	Nurses' Superannuation Scheme—Administration Expenses	3 10 0	
10 10 0	Honorarium to Hon. Treasurer's Assistants	10 10 0	
			180 13 6
147 4 4			
14 11 0	War Damage Insurance	— — —	
9337 13 9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	9332 8 5	

Excess of Receipts over payments :—

190 8 4	Balance overdrawn at 1st January, 1945	— — —	
59 7 0	Less Balance overdrawn at 31st December, 1945	— — —	
			— — —
131 1 4			
£9468 15 1			£9332 8 5

A. ABEL,

Hon. Treasurer.



